

REMARKS

The Examiner's Action mailed on July 16, 2007, has been received and its contents carefully considered.

In this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 1-3, 5, 6 and 10. Claims 1, 5 and 8 are the independent claims, and claims 1-10 remain pending in the application. For at least the following reasons, it is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance.

Applicants acknowledge the duty of disclosure, and wish to stipulate that the information from the website mentioned in item 6 of the Office Action is pertinent concerning background knowledge of GIS.

Claims 2 and 5 were objected to for informalities. It is respectfully requested that these objections be withdrawn.

Claims 1 and 5 were rejected under 35 USC §112, ¶2 for lack of antecedent basis. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The claim elements objected to for informalities or rejected as lacking in antecedent basis are all expressions ending in "data", including "vector layer data" and "grid layer data". Applicants wish to note that "data" is the plural of "datum". For this reason no indefinite article was placed in front of the first recitation of each of those limitations, as none was needed with a plural. However, it is recognized that in current usage "data" may also be used as the singular form, and so an indefinite article has been added in certain places in the claims, as appropriate.

Claims 1-10 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as anticipated by *Wang et al.* (US 6,716,106 B2). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Wang et al. discloses a real-scene tour simulation system and a method for the same. However, although *Wang et al.* discloses GIS and the application of GIS, *Wang et al.* does not disclose or teach a combination of GIS and a simulation game system providing realistic game backgrounds in real-time.

More particularly, *Wang et al.* fails to teach or suggest the background generator module recited in independent claim 1, i.e. "a background generator module, receiving the map layer data to perform overlay computing and generate the game background, and further executing a game course sequence according to event coordinate data".

The Office Action alleges that the background generator module is disclosed in *Wang et al.*, in column 3, lines 35-55:

Moreover, the geographical environment condition is simulated and presented by the activity platform **202**. For example, when the user is walking up a slope, like what is shown in FIG. 5A, the activity platform **202** will calculate the related variables, such as the degree of inclination θ , and simulate the geographical environment condition based on the slope of the road, which eventually makes the user apply more energy to walk on the road being simulated on the activity platform **202**. In another example, if the scene selected by the user has a big stone **214A**, a small stone **218A** and a pit **216A** on the road, the system will generate the situation and present on the activity platform **202**, as what is illustrated in FIG. 5B, and thus making the user feel like walking on the road with all the stones and pits. To simulate that scenario, the real-scene tour simulation system **200** will send out an associated signal, and the activity platform **202** will simulate accordingly. When the user **220** enters the simulated tour location, the activity platform **202** will present extruding objects **214B** and **218B** and a pit hole **216B** corresponding to the stones **214A**, **218A** (the big stone and the small stone respectively) and the pit **216A**.

...and in column 5, lines 15-20:

Moreover, the geographic information system or the expert system in the embodiment of the present invention could be embedded directly in the ASIC and provide the information when the user selects the tour location or provide the real time information via a network (such as Internet or Local Area Network).

The excerpt from column 3 describes an activity platform **202** that presents “extruding objects **214A**, **218A** and a pit hole **216B**” to represent objects in a selected scene, and the sentence taken from column 5 discloses the use of a GIS, but in neither of these places is there any teaching or suggestion of “receiving the map layer data to perform overlay computing and generate the game background, and further executing a game course sequence according to event coordinate data” as claimed.

Claim 1 therefore patentably defines over *Wang et al.* and is allowable, together with claims 2-4 that depend therefrom.

With respect to independent method claim 5, *Wang et al.* fails to teach or suggest the claimed steps of “transmitting a display area corresponding to the game character coordinate data and accessing a map layer data; according to coordinates of the display area and a vector layer data, performing a first map overlay computing”.

The Office Action does not analyze each independent claim separately, but asserts alleged equivalents in *Wang et al.* to the elements recited in claim 1 only, and alleges that this is sufficient to also overcome independent claims 5 and 8.

Consequently, the Office Action fails to even allege any equivalent to the vector layer data with respect to independent claim 5, but does allege with respect to dependent claims 2 and 6 that the vector layer data and the grid layer data are disclosed in column 2, lines 38-44:

Please refer to FIG. 1A to FIG. 1D, FIG. 1A to FIG. 1D show the diagrams of an example on how an user selects a tour location via a geographic information system (GIS). The tour locations shown in FIG. 1A to FIG. 1D include holiday resorts, historical interests and hot tour spots in Taiwan.

Nothing in the above excerpt mentions vector layer data or grid layer data, and nor are the same evident from the drawings referred to therein.

Thus, claim 5 therefore also patentably defines over *Wang et al.* and is allowable, together with claims 6 and 7 that depend therefrom.

With respect to independent claim 8, as the Office Action provides no separate analysis of this claim, there is not even any allegation in the Office Action that *Wang et al.* teaches or suggests, for example “detecting a trigger signal and generating corresponding event coordinate data; transmitting the event coordinate data corresponding to the trigger signal”.

Claim 8 therefore also patentably defines over *Wang et al.* and is allowable, together with claims 9 and 10 that depend therefrom.

Further, with respect to dependent claims 3 and 10, *Wang et al.* fails to teach or suggest the claimed geographical information analysis, “wherein the geographical information analysis comprises at least one of a buffer zone

analysis, a route analysis, a space topology analysis, a slope inclination analysis, a 3-dimensions view analysis, or a tendency forecast analysis”.

The Office Action alleges with respect to claims 3 and 10, that the above feature is disclosed in column 3, lines 5-18 of *Wang et al.*:

In one preferred embodiment, the system of the present invention will determine if the tour can be taken based on the location selected by the user. If the tour cannot be taken in a reasonable way, the system will automatically select a possible tour location for user; or via Virtual Reality (VR) technology, to simulate and display the simulation result to the user. For example, if the user selects a tour traveling in a river, the system will display a scene just like the user is taking the tour riding in a boat. Various possible modifications, omissions, and alterations could be conceived of by persons skilled in the art to the form and the content of any particular embodiment described above, without departing from the scope of the present invention.

...and in lines 30-55:

Once the tour location has been selected, the scene of that tour location will be displayed to the user **220** via the display screen **206**, the condition of the temperature and the sunshine at the tour location will be simulated by the air conditioning device **208** and the controlled light source **212** respectively, and the simulation result will be presented to the user. Moreover, the geographical environment condition is simulated and presented by the activity platform **202**. For example, when the user is walking up a slope, like what is shown in FIG. 5A, the activity platform **202** will calculate the related variables, such as the degree of inclination θ , and simulate the geographical environment condition based on the slope of the road, which eventually makes the user apply more energy to walk on the road being simulated on the activity platform **202**. In another example, if the scene selected by the user has a big stone **214A**, a small stone **218A** and a pit **216A** on the road, the system will generate the situation and present on the activity platform **202**, as what is illustrated in FIG. 5B, and thus making the user feel like walking on the road with all the stones and pits. To simulate that scenario, the real-scene tour simulation system **200** will send out an associated signal, and the activity platform **202** will simulate accordingly. When the user **220** enters the simulated tour location, the activity platform **202** will present extruding objects **214B** and **218B** and a pit hole **216B** corresponding to the stones **214A**, **218A** (the big stone and the small stone respectively) and the pit **216A**.

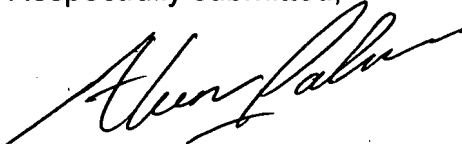
It is unclear where any of the recited analyses are disclosed in the above excerpts, and consequently, claims 3 and 10 are allowable for at least this additional reason, as well for their dependence from claims 1 and 8 respectively.

It is submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Such action and the passing of this case to issue are requested.

Should the Examiner feel that a conference would help to expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is hereby invited to contact the undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

Should any fee be required, however, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 18-0002, and advise us accordingly.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date

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